Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01 AEC-11

AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01

PM-07 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03

FEA-02 AGR-20 SWF-02 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01

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P 251937Z SEP 74 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6023 INFO USUN NEW YORK 3306

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E. O. 11652 NA

TAGS: ENGR PFOR VE

SUBJ: GOV REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE

REF: CARACAS 9337; CARACAS 9465

1. EL NACIONAL SEPTEMBER 25 QUOTES ACTING FONMIN JOHN RAPHAEL AS STATING THAT THE GOV PLANS NO OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SEP 23 ADDRESS TO THE WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE IN DETROIT SINCE PRESIDENT PEREZ'S PUBLIC LETTER OF SEP19(CARACAS 9337) IN REPLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S UN SPEECH MADE CLEAR VENEZUELA'S POSITION. RAPHAEL WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT AFTER READING THE PRESIDENT'S DETROIT SPEECH HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD INTENDED TO THREATEN OIL PRODUCERS WITH WAR (CARACAS 9465).

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2. IN SAME FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE, EL NACIONAL REPORTS, FROM

UNOFFICIAL SOURCES, THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ IS CONSIDERING TRAVELING TO NEW YORK TO ADDRESS THE UNGA ON THE ENERGY QUESTION (FONMIN SCHACHT IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY ON OCTOBER 8). INDEPENDENT DEPUTY RAFAEL TUDELA (WHO HAS IMPORTATNT PETROLEUM INTERESTS) IN INTERVIEW WITH EL UNIVERSAL HAS SUGGESTED THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ GO TO THE UN TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES.

3. COMMENT: WITH OFFICIAL REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT STATEMENTS ON ENERGY NOW MUCH MORE RESTRAINED, ALTHOUGH LOCAL CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECHES CONTINUES(REPORTED SEPTEL), WE ARE INCLINED TO TAKE THE VIEW THAT, BARRING SOME UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENT, PEREZ WOULD NOT WISH PERSONALLY TO WAVE THE OIL PRODUCERS' BANNER AT THE CURRENT UNGA. FISHER

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